

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A plug-socket connector for a bus device of a data-processing system, said bus device comprising a control chip mounted on a main board of said data-processing system, said plug-socket connector comprising:

a plug element mounted on said main board, and comprising a plurality of pins electrically connected to said control chip and arranged in an array, wherein said array of pins comprises a vacant site with no pin thereat in the midst of the array of pins, and at least three sites immediately adjacent to said vacant site are occupied by three of said plurality of pins, respectively;

a connection port for connecting with at least a peripheral device; and

a socket element electrically connected to said connection port, and comprising a plurality of holes arranged in an array for receiving said array of pins, wherein said array of holes comprises a block site for receiving no pin therein, and said block site is in a position in the midst of the array of holes where no pin can be inserted corresponding to said vacant site ~~when~~ so that said plug element is cannot be combined with said socket element if said array of pins is shifted from the correct alignment with said array of holes up to one half of the array sites.

2. (Original) The plug-socket connector according to claim 1 wherein said data-processing system is a personal computer (PC).

3. (Original) The plug-socket connector according to claim 1 wherein said bus device is an IEEE 1394 serial bus compliant device, said control chip is an IEEE 1394 control chip, and said connection port is an IEEE 1394 port.

4. (Original) The plug-socket connector according to claim 1 wherein a size of said array of pins is identical to that of said array of holes.

5. (Original) The plug-socket connector according to claim 1 wherein a distribution of said array of pins is identical to that of said array of holes.

6. (Original) The plug-socket connector according to claim 1 wherein said array of pins is a 2×5 array comprising nine pins and one said vacant site surrounded by three pins.

7. (Original) The plug-socket connector according to claim 6 wherein said array of holes is a 2×5 array comprising nine holes and one said block surrounded by three holes.

8. (Original) The plug-socket connector according to claim 1 wherein said bus device is a universal serial bus (USB) compliant device, said control chip is a universal serial bus control chip, and said connection port is a universal serial bus port.

9. (New) A plug-socket connector for a serial bus device of a data-processing system, said serial bus device comprising a control chip mounted on a main board of said data-processing system, said plug-socket connector comprising:

a plug element mounted on said main board, and comprising a plurality of pins, including a power pin, electrically connected to said control chip and arranged in an array, wherein said array of pins comprises a vacant site with no pin thereat, and at least three sites immediately adjacent to said vacant site are occupied by three of said plurality of pins, respectively;

a connection port for connecting with at least a peripheral device; and

a socket element electrically connected to said connection port, and comprising a plurality of holes arranged in an array for receiving said array of pins, wherein said array of holes comprises a block site where no pin can be inserted at a position corresponding to said vacant site so that said plug element fails to be combined with said socket element if said plug element is not correctly oriented and aligned with said socket element.

10. (New) The plug-socket connector according to claim 9 wherein said data-processing system is a personal computer (PC).

11. (New) The plug-socket connector according to claim 9 wherein said serial bus device is an IEEE 1394 serial bus compliant device, said control chip is an IEEE 1394 control chip, and said connection port is an IEEE 1394 port.

12. (New) The plug-socket connector according to claim 9 wherein a size of said array of pins is identical to that of said array of holes.

13. (New) The plug-socket connector according to claim 9 wherein a distribution of said array of pins is identical to that of said array of holes.

14. (New) The plug-socket connector according to claim 9 wherein said array of pins is a 2×5 array comprising nine pins and one said vacant site surrounded by three pins.

15. (New) The plug-socket connector according to claim 14 wherein said array of holes is a 2×5 array comprising nine holes and one said block surrounded by three holes.

16. (New) The plug-socket connector according to claim 9 wherein said serial bus device is a universal serial bus (USB) compliant device, said control chip is a universal serial bus control chip, and said connection port is a universal serial bus.

17. (New) The plug-socket connector according to claim 9 wherein the vacant site is disposed in the midst of the array of pins.

18. (New) The plug-socket connector according to claim 9 wherein the block site is disposed in the midst of the array of holes.